Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 07375 011329Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05
EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /097 W
----------019660 011331Z /44
O R 011137Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5817
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
USMISSION USUN NY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 7375

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OCON, SY, LY
SUBJECT: SYRIAN ATTENDANCE AT TRIPOLI MINI-SUMMIT

1. SYRIAN DELEGATION, HEADED BY PRESIDENT ASSAD IS SCHEDULED TO LEAVE DAMASCUS LATE MORNING DECEMBER 1 FOR OPENING OF TRIPOLI CONFERENCE LATER TODAY. PRESIDENT IS TAKING WITH HIM MUHAMMAD BAJBUJ, ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL OF BAATH PARTY REGIONAL COMMAND; FONMIN KHADDAM; JAMIL SHAYYA, DEPPRIMIN FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS; FAWZI KAYYALI, REPRESENTATIVE OF PROGRESSIVE NATIONAL FRONT; ADIB DAOUDY, PRESIDENTIAL POLITICAL ADVISOR; AND ABDULLAH AL-KHANI, DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER.
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PAGE 02 DAMASC 07375 011329Z

2. SHAYYA, WE BELIEVE, IS ATTENDING PRIMARILY TO SERVE AS LATER BRIEFER OF SYRIAN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS SINCE NEITHER PRESIDENT NOR FONMIN SEEM TO BRIEF COUNCIL PERSONALLY ON SUCH EVENTS AS TRIPOLI CONFERENCE. IT IS NOT EXCLUDED, HOWEVER, THAT SHAYYA WILL BE CALLED ON TO PRODUCE FIGURES SHOWING SYRIA'S NEEDS FOR ADDITIONAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. KAYYALI

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WILL BE ALONG FOR WINDOW DRESSING SINCE HIS SOCIALIST
PARTY REPRESENTS ONLY SMALL FACTION OF SYRIAN ELECTORATE.
WE NOTE NO MEMBER OF SYRIAN COMMUNIST PARTY, ALSO MEMBERS OF
NATIONAL FRONT, IN DELEGATION. NO MILITARY FIGURES EITHER.

3. SPECULATION IN DAMASCUS IS THAT THE NATIONAL DELEGATIONS AND
THE PLO WILL RESTATE THEIR FAMILIAR POSITIONS AND SEE WHAT COMMON
GROUND THEY CAN AGREE UPON IN OPPOSITION TO SADAT'S
INITIATIVES. POSITIONS OF LIBYA AND IRAQ ARE CONSIDERED
IDENTICAL, I.E. DISAVOW UNRESOLUTIONS 242/338 AND
ABANDON ALL EFFORTS FOR PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. WE
UNDERSTAND FROM WIRE SERVICE REPORT NEITHER IRAQI PRESIDENT NOR
SADDAM HUSSEIN WILL ATTEND BUT THAT RCC DELEGATES AND FONMIN
HAMMADI WILL CARRY FULL AUTHORITY TO "COMMIT" IRAQ.

4. ASSAD IS EXPECTED TO RETURN FRIDAY EVENING, AFTER
WHICH WE WILL SEEK EARLIEST READOUT ON SYRIAN VIEW OF
CONFERENCE RESULTS.
MURPHY

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Subject: SYRIAN ATTENDANCE AT TRIPOLI MINI-SUMMIT
TAGS: OCON, SY, LY
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22 May 2009
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